**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Ralf Dittes et al. **Examiner:** Thomas R. Hannon
Application 10/621,756 **Confirmation** 1698
Filed: July 17, 2003 **Group Art** 3682
For: **HYDRODYNAMIC THRUST BEARING**

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR RESPONSE/AMENDMENT

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Response to the Office Action of January 7, 2005 for the above-identified patent application.

FEE FOR ADDITIONAL CLAIMS

- ☒ A fee for additional claims is not required.
☐ A fee for additional claims is required.

The additional fee has been calculated as shown below:

	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Additional Fee
Total Claims	5	- 5	= 0	x \$50.00	= \$0.00
Independent Claims	1	- 1	= 0	x \$200.00	= \$0.00
First Presentation of a Multiple Dependent Claim				+ \$360.00	= \$0.00

TOTAL = \$0.00

- ☐ A check in the amount of \$XXX in payment of the fee for additional claims is transmitted herewith.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.20 in connection with the paper(s) transmitted herewith, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0675, Order No. 057517.0046. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is transmitted herewith.
- ☐ Please Charge \$XXX to Deposit Account No. 50-0675, Order No. 057517.0046 in payment of the fee for additional claims. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is transmitted herewith.

EXTENSION FEE

- ☐ The following extension fee is applicable to the Reply filed herewith: \$XXX extension fee for response within XXX month(s) pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$XXX in payment of the extension fee is enclosed herewith.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional extension fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 in connection with the paper(s) transmitted herewith, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0675, Order No. 057517.0046. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is transmitted herewith.
- ☐ Please charge \$XXX extension fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0675, Order No. 057517.0046. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is transmitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP
Attorneys for Applicant(s)
919 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10022
212-756-2000

Dated: April 5, 2005
New York, New York

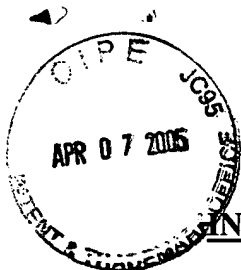
By: Anna Vishev
Anna Vishev, Esq.
Reg. No. 45,018

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Date of Deposit: April 5, 2005
I hereby certify under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 that this correspondence and enumerated documents are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Name: Sarah Schlie

Signature: *Sarah Schlie*
Schulte Roth & Zabel, LLP



Docket No.: 57517-46

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Ralf Dittes, et al.

Serial No.: 10/621,756

Filed: July 17, 2003

For: **HYDRODYNAMIC THRUST BEARING**

Examiner: Thomas R. Hannon Group Art Unit: 3682

Date of Deposit: April 5, 2005

I hereby certify that this paper or fee and enumerated documents is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "First Class Mail service under 37 CFR 1.8 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sarah Schlie
Sarah Schlie

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Arlington, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated January 7, 2005 on which the shortened statutory period for response expires on April 7, 2005. Accordingly, this Response is being timely filed.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of the claims, which begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

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Please amend paragraph **[0027]** of the specification as follows:

[0027] Before sphere 12 is pressed in, thrust plate 9 is set on the shaft at a right angle to rotational axis ~~13~~ 14 of shaft 4. A high-precision mounting device may be used for this purpose.